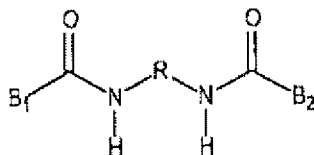


AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The following claim set replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Process for preparing a high-molecular weight polyamide, ~~polyester, copolyester,~~ copolyamide or polyester-amide block copolymer comprising melt-mixing a polyamide, ~~polyester, copolyesters~~ or a mixture ~~or mixtures~~ of a polyamide ~~and/or~~ and a polyester having a lower molecular weight, than the polymer obtained with the process of the invention, with a diisocyanate, wherein the polyamide, ~~polyester, copolyesters~~ or mixture ~~or mixtures~~ of the polyamide ~~and/or~~ and polyester react with the diisocyanate during melt mixing, and wherein the diisocyanate is a blocked diisocyanate having the following formula



wherein R = linear, branched or cycloaliphatic C₂-C₂₀ or aromatic C₆-C₂₀ and B₁, B₂ = caprolactam, imidazole, dimethyl-pyrazole, triazole, oxim, malonic acid ester, ethylacetylacetonate, phenol, cresol, aliphatic alcohol, secondary amine, or hydroxyl benzoic acid methyl ester, and wherein the polyamide, ~~polyester, copolyesters~~ or a mixture ~~of mixtures~~ of polyamide ~~and/or~~ and polyester having a lower molecular weight comprises amino ~~or hydroxyl~~ end groups.

2. (Currently Amended) Process according to Claim 1, wherein the blocked diisocyanate is present in an amount of 0.005 to 4 wt.% relative to the polyamide, ~~the polyester, the copolyester~~ or the mixture ~~or mixtures~~ of polyamide ~~and/or~~ and polyester having a lower molecular weight.
3. (Previously Presented) Process of claim 1, wherein the melt mixing is done in an extruder.
4. (Original) Process of claim 3 wherein the extruder is a twin-screw extruder.
5. (Currently Amended) Process of claim 1, wherein the molecular weight of the polyamide, ~~the polyester, the copolyester~~ or the mixture ~~or mixtures~~ of polyamide ~~and/or~~ and polyester having a low molecular weight achieve a permanent increase in molecular weight within 2 minutes reaction time with the diisocyanate.
6. (New) Process of claim 1, wherein the high-molecular weight polyamide, polyester, copolyester, copolyamide or polyester-amide block copolymer that is obtained is a linear polymer.